

SMSgt (Ret.) Rob Rosenberger

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Title: BIOGRAPHY OF MAJ. GEN. EDWARD W. ANDERSON

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWARD WHARTON ANDERSON ✓

Edward W. Anderson was born at Manhattan, Kansas, September 23, 1903. He was graduated from Stanford University at Palo Alto, California, in June, 1928, and the following October entered the Army as a flying cadet. A year later, after graduating from the Air Corps primary and advanced flying schools, he was appointed a second lieutenant in the Air Corps Reserve.

His first assignment was at Rockwell Field, California, as assistant engineering officer and athletic officer of the 95th Pursuit Squadron.

On January 6, 1930, he was commissioned a second lieutenant of Air Corps in the Regular Army.

In October, 1931, he moved to March Field, California, as a flight commander with the 95th Pursuit Squadron. The following May he was transferred to Fort MacArthur, California, for a brief tour of duty with the 63rd Coast Artillery, after which he returned to the 95th Pursuit Squadron at March Field. From September, 1932, to April, 1933, he served as adjutant, school officer, and assistant operations officer of the First Bombarment Wing at March Field and then was re-attached to the 95th Pursuit Squadron.

In August, 1933, he entered the Air Corps Technical School at Chanute Field, Illinois, from which he was graduated in June 1934. He then went to Albrook Field, Panama Canal Zone, for service as operations, engineering and armament officer of the 24th Pursuit Squadron. In March, 1935, he became information officer of the 16th Pursuit Group at Albrook Field, and from July, 1935, until September, 1936, served as communications and assistant operations officer of the 24th Pursuit Squadron at that station.

Returning to the United States in October, 1936, he became flight commander and operations and intelligence officer of the 94th Pursuit Squadron at Selfridge Field, Michigan. From July, 1938, to June, 1939, he was supervisor of the Civil Mechanic School, Air Corps Training Detachment, at Boston, Massachusetts, after which he was assigned to Maxwell Field, Alabama, where he was graduated from the Air Corps Tactical School in June, 1940.

He then returned to Selfridge Field for duty with the 31st Pursuit Group and the following October became 'B' flight commander, of the 41st Pursuit Squadron at that station. In January, 1941, he assumed command of the 41st Pursuit Squadron and the following April became operations officer of the 31st Pursuit Group at Selfridge Field. A month later he became group executive officer, and moved with this organization to the New Orleans (Louisiana) Air Force Base.

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In March, 1942, he became commanding officer of the 20th Fighter Group at Wilmington, Delaware, and shortly afterward moved the group to Morris AFB, North Carolina.

He went to England in September, 1942, to organize the Fourth Fighter Group, composed of American pilots who had formed the famed Eagle Squadron of the Royal Air Force. After commanding this group for a year, he was appointed commanding officer of the 67th Fighter Wing in England.

In July, 1945, he returned to the United States, for temporary assignment at Air Force headquarters at Washington, D C., and two months later became chief of staff of the First Fighter Command at Mitchel AFB, New York. In April, 1946, he entered the Air Force Special Staff School at Orlando, Florida, and upon completing the senior officer course was assigned as chief of staff of the First Air Force at Fort Slocum, New York.

He was appointed commanding general at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, in April, 1947, and a year later became deputy commander and chief of staff of the Technical Division of Air Training Command at Scott AFB, Belleville, Illinois.

In November, 1948, he became chief of staff of the Third Air Division, with headquarters at London, England, and the following January was appointed commander of the 59th Air Depot Wing of the Third Air Division, with station at Marham, England.

General Anderson has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, American theater medal, American defense service medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the European-African-Mediterranean ribbon with six stars.

His foreign decorations include the French Croix de Guerre with palm, and the French Legion of Honor.

He is rated a Command Pilot and Aircraft Observer.

A tall man of heavy build, General Anderson enjoys hunting, fishing, and golfing. He is married to the former Miss Ann Larson, of Moline, Illinois.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant (temporary) on March 15, 1935; to first lieutenant (permanent) on July 10, 1935; to captain (permanent) on January 6, 1940; to major (temporary) on March 21, 1941; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) on January 5, 1942; to colonel (temporary) on August 22, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) on March 3, 1944; to major (permanent) on January 6, 1947; to colonel (permanent) on April 2, 1948.

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MAJOR GENERAL EDWARD WHARTON ANDERSON, USAF

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In November, 1948, he became chief of staff of the Third Air Division, with headquarters at London, England, and the following January was appointed commander of the 59th Air Depot Wing of the Third Air Division, with station at Burtonwood, England. In January, 1950, he was relieved as commander of the 59th Air Depot Wing and re-appointed chief of staff of the Third Air Division.

General Anderson has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters; American theater Medal, American Defense Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the European-African-Mediterranean Ribbon with six stars.

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